

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01 IO-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2208

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USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 10519

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: DC NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING PROLONGED AS OPPONENTS  
MOVE TO OUST PARTY SECRETARY FANFANI

REF: ROME 9891

1. DEBATE AT THE CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (DC) NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED TO END JULY 21, WILL CONTINUE AT LEAST UNTIL JULY 22. ANTI-FANFANI FORCES, WHICH NOW COMPRISE OVER 70 PERCENT OF DC PARTY, ARE PUSHING FOR VOTE JULY 22 WHICH IS LIKELY TO RESULT IN FANFANI'S OUSTER.

2. FOLLOWING RESIGNATION FROM DIRECTORATE ON JUNE 30 OF DC LEFT WING FACTIONS REPRESENTING ABOUT 20 PERCENT OF PARTY, TWO MODERATE FACTIONS LED BY ANDREOTTI-COLOMBO AND RUMOR-PICCOLI-TAVIANI ALSO WITHDREW THEIR LEADERS FROM PARTY DIRECTORATE POSITIONS ON JULY 19. ONLY THE SIX FANFANI AND TWO MORO FACTION SUPPORTERS THUS REMAIN IN THE 29-MAN DC DIRECTORATE. ACTION BY CENTER FACTION LEADERS FORMALIZES SPLIT WITH FANFANI AND THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT HIM AS PARTY SECRETARY. ALTHOUGH PREMIER MORO HAS CONTINUED TO REFUSE TO TORPEDO HIS COLLEAGUE (AND THUS FURTHER JEOPARDIZE SHAKY MORO TWO-PARTY GOVERNMENT), HIS SPEECH TO COUNCIL  
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DIVERGED SUBSTANTIALLY FROM FANFANI POLICIES AND EMPHASIZED

"PERSONAL" RATHER THAN POLITICAL SUPPORT FOR DC SECRETARY.

3. BARRING A MIRACLE, FANFANI WILL BE FORCED TO STEP DOWN. HOWEVER, HIS SUCCESSION HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED DESPITE CONTINUING NEGOTIATIONS AMONG PARTY FACTIONS. MOST OBSERVERS STILL BELIEVE MAIN ALTERNATIVES REMAIN DC CHAMBER GROUP PRESIDENT FLAMINIO PICCOLI OR A COLLEGIAL LEADERSHIP GUARANTEEING THE MAJOR FACTIONS A SUPERVISORY ROLE IN PREPARING FOR A DC PARTY CONGRESS IN THE FALL. HOWEVER, THE SITUATION IS STILL FLUID AND SOME COMMENTATORS ARE NOW TOUTING THE IDEA OF ANDREOTTI AS FANFANI'S SUCCESSOR. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

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